



composites

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com·pos·ite  **Pronunciation Key** (kəm-pōz 'īt)  
adj.

1. Made up of distinct components; compound.
2. *Mathematics*. Having factors; factorable.
3. *Botany*. Of, belonging to, or characteristic of the composite family.
4. *Composite Architecture*. Of, relating to, or being in the Composite order.

*n.*

1. A structure or an entity made up of distinct components. See Synonyms at [mixture](#).
2. A complex material, such as wood or fiberglass, in which two or more distinct, structurally complementary substances, especially metals, ceramics, glasses, and polymers, combine to produce structural or functional properties not present in any individual component.
3. *Botany*. A composite plant.
4. *Mathematics*. The application of one function to another. For example, if  $f(x) = x^2$  and  $g(x) = x + 1$ , then the composite  $f(g(x)) = (x + 1)^2$  and the composite  $g(f(x)) = x^2 + 1$ .

[French, from Old French, from Latin *compositus*, past

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Quick definitions ([Alloy](#))

- **noun**: a mixture containing two or more metallic elements or metallic and nonmetallic elements usually fused together or dissolving into each other when molten (Example: "*Brass is an alloy of zinc and copper*")
- **noun**: the state of impairing the quality or reducing the value of something
- **verb**: make an alloy of
- **verb**: lower in value by increasing the base-metal content

Encyclopedia article  
([Alloy](#))

An **alloy** is a combination, either in solution or compound, of two or more elements, at least one of which is a metal. An alloy with two components is called a binary alloy; one